

NATIONAL GEOSPATIAL-INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

4600 SANGAMORE ROAD BETHESDA, MARYLAND 20816-5003

NEWS RELEASE

Public Affairs Office

Release Date: May 6, 2005 Contact: Stephen Honda, 301-227-2057 Release Number: NGA-05-06 Stephen.Honda@nga.mil

NGA and NAVAIR Form Partnership

BETHESDA, MD—The National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA) and the Naval Air System Command (NAVAIR) have formed a partnership that will accelerate development and fielding of operational capabilities to both NGA and the U.S. Navy.

The Memorandum of Agreement (MOA), signed by the director of NGA, Lt. Gen. James R. Clapper, Jr., USAF (retired) and the commander of NAVAIR, Vice Adm. Walter B. Massenburg, USN, created the NGA NAVAIR Experimental Aviation Activity (NNEAA). Within the NNEAA framework, NGA and NAVAIR will jointly develop and operate advance transformational warfare systems and capabilities, linking the national intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (ISR) capabilities and the production of advanced geospatial intelligence (GEOINT) products.

"The NNEAA represents a significant partnership between the military and intelligence communities, and offers tremendous potential for increasing operational effectiveness and agility, both in current operations and in response to emerging threats," said Vice Adm. Massenburg, NAVAIR Commander. "It provides a cost-effective path by which to rapidly evaluate, integrate and transition transformational technologies and capabilities to our warfighters." The NGA and NAVAIR partnership will provide opportunities to leverage combined ISR manned aircraft, unmanned aircraft, and lighter than air vehicles, ground systems, advanced airborne sensors, data processing infrastructures, and workforces of both organizations.

Gen. Clapper said, "The capabilities developed from this partnership will provide flexible and timely solutions to support warfighter operational planning, rapid responses to operational questions during conflict, and assessments of new concepts and technologies for future ground, aircraft, and sea systems."

NGA is a Department of Defense combat support agency and a member of the National Intelligence Community whose mission is to provide timely, relevant, and accurate geospatial intelligence in support of our national security. Geospatial intelligence is the exploitation and analysis of imagery and geospatial information to describe, assess, and visually depict physical features and geographically referenced activities on the Earth. Headquartered in Bethesda, Md., NGA has major facilities in the Washington, D.C., Northern Virginia, and St. Louis, Mo. areas with NGA support teams worldwide.

The Naval Air Systems Command, in partnership with industry, supports the U.S. Navy, Joint Services, and allied militaries around the world by developing, acquiring, integrating and supporting naval aeronautical sensors, weapons, aircraft, and related technology systems. Headquartered in Patuxent River, Md., NAVAIR has eight major operating locations throughout the U.S.